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WITHIN OUR BORDERS

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VOL. 4 FEBRUARY 15, 1952 No. 17

Aberhart Memorial Sanatorium Ready For Patients

New Hospital Brings Most Modern Treatments To The Aid Of Those Suffering From Tuberculosis

Alberta's $3,000,000 contribution in the fight against tuberculosis and toward the treatment of those afflicted with the disease —the Aberhart Memorial Sanatorium—will be opened at a ceremony at the sanatorium Feb. 20.

Due to the fact the auditorium of the building will seat only 200 persons, admittance to the evening ceremony will be by invitation. The following two evenings—Feb. 21 and 22—have been set aside for the public to visit the building. Nurses will be detailed as guides to show visitors through the sanatorium.

Located at the south-west edge of the city of Edmonton, the sanatorium is far from the noise of the city and out of the way of main traffic arteries. Not only will patients have within the sanatorium every known modern device of assistance to them but also during summer months they will find quiet and relaxation within its grounds. The best features of similar medical buildings on the continent were studied by those responsible for construction of the sanatorium so that the Aberhart Memorial Sanatorium would rank among the best of its kind in Canada.

The sanatorium is named in honor of the late Premier William Aberhart of Alberta, whose early years as head of the Alberta Government were marked by major extensions of government health services, particularly in the field of tuberculosis. His widow, Mrs. Aberhart, who resides in Calgary, has been requested to conduct the official opening ceremony which will consist of presenting Dr. H. H. Stephens, superintendent of the sanatorium, with a key. Others taking part in the ceremony will be: the Hon. E. C. Manning, Premier of Alberta; the Hon. Dr. W. W. Cross, Minister of Health; the Hon. D. Bruce MacMillan, Minister of Public Works; Dr. A. H. Baker, Former Director of Division of Tuberculosis Control; Dr. G. R. Davidson, Director of Alberta Division of Tuberculosis Control, and other senior members of the sanatorium staff.

Members of the Alberta Legislature have been invited to the opening ceremony to represent their various constitutencies through the province. The members will be in the city at the time for the opening of the legislature the following day.

The first patient will be moved into the sanatorium from wards in hospitals in the city the week after the opening.

The sanatorium consists of four storeys and a sun deck, as well as auxiliary buildings. Four X-ray machines have been installed and a garage will house two portable X-ray units used in northern Alberta.

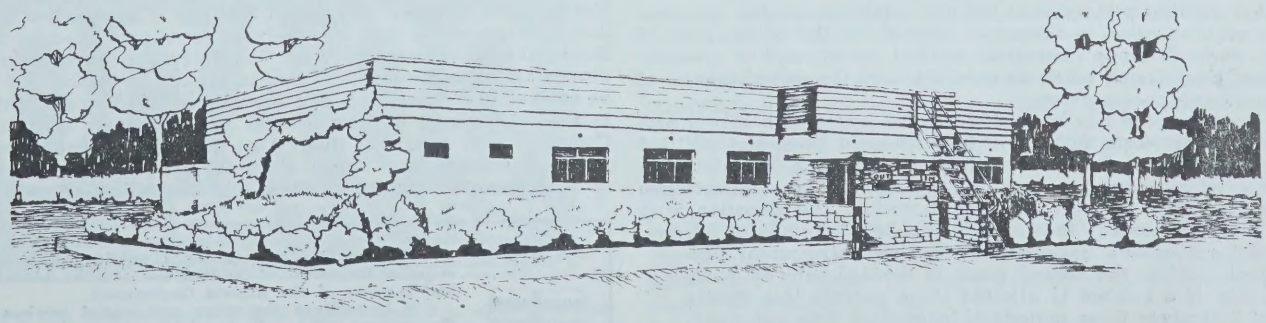
In addition to the modern wards, the hospital contains a doctors' library and sitting room, a solarium for patients, two-room suites for superintendents and internes, a check room for clothing and valuables, a patients' library, post office and canteen, bakery, butcher shop with walk-in refrigerators, a cafeteria and a dentist's office. Adjoining structures contain a nurses' residence and a service department consisting of a laundry, painting and carpentry shops.

The auditorium where the opening will be held, later will become the scene of movies and stage shows for the patients. The kitchens, which will prepare food in a production line method, will dispatch food to each floor via a dumb-waiter, insuring patients fresh, hot meals.

Patients no longer requiring hospital care also are taken into consideration. A rehabilitation officer will help to ease their return to society and courses will be given in public and high school subjects, commercial courses, and occupational therapy in handicrafts.

The first patients will be moved into the sanatorium from other hospitals in Edmonton during the week following the official opening. ●

The Nerve Centre Of Civil Defence



Albertas new Civil Defence Headquarters, the first of its kind in Canada, has been completed.

The headquarters is located in Edmonton's west end, will serve as the nerve centre of the Province's civil defence organization. It also will contain the government radio section which will play an important part in communications during an emergency.

The building has two storeys, but only one quarter of it is above ground. It is built of reinforced concrete, designed to blend with the homes in the neighborhood. Although not bombproof, the building provides reasonable protection for civil defence workers. It contains committee rooms, communication room, operations room, offices, washroom facilities, an emergency kitchen and special ventilation facilities.

The headquarters, provided so that there will be an alternative headquarters to house the civil defence staff in the event of the main headquarters being destroyed, cost approximately $60,000.

More English

Secondary School Curriculum Changes

Character Changes and General Education Now Stressed; No Specialization Until Grades Eleven and Twelve

A 60 percent increase in the time devoted to English in high school grades is one of the major changes being made in the Alberta secondary school curriculum by the Department of Education. In addition, new courses and textbooks in English are expected to improve the high school students' standards of oral and written expression. Improvement in spelling standards is hoped for with the introduction of two new series of spellers for elementary and junior high school grades.

Realizing the importance of good reading ability, the Department of Education has made provision for increased attention to the development and improvement of reading skills in grades above Grade 6.

Increased attention to English is only one of the changes being made in the secondary school curriculum. Another is the emphasis on personal development and character training. New courses entitled Health and Personal Development have been introduced on an experimental basis in Grades 7-10. One prime objective of Alberta's secondary school program is to bring youth to a realization of their position and responsibilities in school, community, province and nation. A sincere effort is being made by the Department of Education to achieve this objective, not only through personal development courses but also by the emphasis of character development in other courses.

More Arithmetic

Until recently there was very little arithmetic taught in grades above Grade 8, but new mathematics courses give considerable attention to arithmetic in the higher grades. In all new courses an emphasis is being placed on thoroughness.

Before the secondary school program was revised, the curriculum committees spent two years formulating objectives. From this period of work emerged a pamphlet entitled "Curriculum Guide for Alberta Secondary Schools." The general objectives, as set out in this pamphlet, are:

1. Personal development.
2. Growth in family living.
3. Growth in civic competence.
4. Growth in occupational preparation.

General Education

"General education" is a phrase which is used frequently in the outlines of the new curriculum. General education is general in at least three respects. First, general education is intended for everyone—not merely the select few who become scholars or who enter the professions. Second, general education is concerned with the total personality—not merely with the intellect but with emotions, habits, attitudes. Third, general education is concerned with the individual's nonspecialized activities. It consists of preparation for efficient living, no matter what one's vocation.

In Grades 7-10 inclusive, emphasis will be placed on general education courses but in Grade 11 and 12 students will be encouraged to devote at least half of their time to one field of specialization such as academic, commercial or technical.

Unit Method Favored

Other guiding principles of the new program are the decrease of departmentalization in classroom instruction; the introduction of the unit, or small-group instruction method; an attempt to diversify the school program as much as possible; and the establishment of a complete guidance service.

A complete plan has been made of the junior high school program and is set forth in a new Departmental pamphlet entitled "Junior High School Program of Studies Handbook." Most of the courses listed have been revised and are now in use, while course outlines for a few are still under preparation. The situation with respect to new courses in the junior high school is briefly as follows:

(For the purpose of apportioning the time in the junior high school grades, the school week is divided into 40 class periods. If a subject is allotted three periods this means that it receives three periods of instruction time per week. One class could be given on Monday, one on Wednesday, and one on Friday.)

Compulsory Subjects -- 32 Periods Per Week

Health and Personal Development—3 periods per week.

New course outlines have been drawn up for these courses in Grades 7, 8 and 9 and are in use throughout the Province.

Literature—3 periods per week.

A new course outline and new text have been selected for this subject. In most cases instruction in Literature is not formally associated with the course in English Language, as was common practice in the past.

Physical Education—3 periods per week.

A new course outline for Grades 7, 8 and 9 is now being prepared in this subject.

Mathematics-Science—10 periods per week.

Although these two courses may be taught by the same instructor they may be considered separately. New textbooks are being used in Grade 7, 8 and 9 mathematics and a new course outline is being prepared. In science new textbooks have been selected and a new course has been drawn up. These are now in use. The new science courses are an improvement over the old outlines. Considerable material in biology and agriculture is included in the new science courses.

Social Studies-Language—12 periods per week.

New textbooks are being selected and new course outlines are being prepared for these two subjects. It is recommended that the language instruction in Grades 7, 8 and 9 be integrated with the social studies for greater effectiveness wherever possible. A new course in Social Studies-Language is being tried out in the Grade 7 classes throughout the Province this year. Most of the classes in Grades 8 and 9 are still using the old courses.

In addition to the above compulsory subjects, it is recommended that junior high school rooms devote about one period per week to student government and school clubs.

Exploratory Subjects -- Eight Periods Per Week

At the present time eight courses are listed as Exploratory Subjects. They are: Art, Drama, Music, Home Economics, Industrial Arts, Typewriting, Community Economics, and Oral French. On the average, students take two of these each year, devoting four periods per week to each subject. At the present moment course outlines for all these exploratory courses are being examined and in some cases will be revised.

There appears to be a demand for some sort of course in agriculture in the junior high school grades. At the present time, an experimental course in horticulture for junior high school students is being tried in Red Deer. If this proves satisfactory it will be added to the list of Exploratory Subjects and made available to any junior high school student in the Province.

The Senior High School Grades

Although several changes are contemplated for the senior high school grades, no new courses have been prepared for Grades 11 and 12. During the present school year experimental courses are being tried in Grade 10 in Health and Personal Development, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. It is expected that additional new courses will be ready for trial purposes in Grade 10 during the school year 1952-53. The only new courses that will be placed on an experimental basis in Grade 11 during 1952-53 will be courses in Mathematics and Science. By 1955 most of the courses in the high school will be revised and improved. Commencing in Grade 10 next year it is likely that the time allotment for English will be increased from five to eight periods per week and the same change made in English in Grade 11 the following year. ●

"Within Our Borders" is a publication designed to acquaint the people of the Province with the administration and services of the Alberta Government.

It is believed the many and varied services of the Government will be effective in the degree they are known and used.

Any material used is for immediate republication. All photographs used are Alberta Government Photographs unless otherwise specified.

Correspondence should be addressed to "Within Our Borders," Legislative Buildings, Edmonton.

New Branch Concentrates On Juvenile Problems

Closer contact with juvenile problems in Alberta is being maintained through the new Juvenile Offenders' Branch of the Attorney-General's Department.

Formerly a responsibility of the Department of Public Welfare, juvenile delinquency control was transferred to the Attorney-General's Department on January 1. In addition, special sections of the Edmonton and Calgary police forces have been set up to deal solely with juvenile problems. Although they work independently of the Juvenile Offenders' Branch, half the cost of the squads is paid by the Alberta Government.

Superintendent of the new Alberta branch is Jack Cameron, who is on retirement leave from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. During his 33 years with the police, S/Sgt. Cameron did considerable work in combatting juvenile delinquency and is familiar with the youth problem in Alberta.

Juvenile courts, which formerly operated under the Department of Public Welfare, now are responsible to the Juvenile Offenders' Branch. At the present time there is a judge of juvenile courts in Edmonton, as well as two probation officers, a court stenographer, a general stenographer and file clerk. Mr. Cameron is Chief Probation Officer.

Calgary has a judge of juvenile courts, a male probation officer and a woman who acts as probation officer and court stenographer.

Through the new branch, closer contact is made between the authorities and juvenile wards of the government. At present there are approximately 80 wards who have been placed in foster homes throughout the Province.

Rehabilitation Stressed

These wards are often from broken homes, or have suffered neglect and unhappiness. Although still in their teens, the boys may be bitter against society and are in danger of becoming hardened criminals. The Juvenile Offenders' Branch is endeavoring to rehabilitate these boys and help them to become valuable citizens.

Although the present system is concerned mainly with juveniles in larger centres, the branch hopes eventually to reach all youths in the Province. One step in the fulfilment of these plans is the policy of having representation at juvenile hearings in rural areas where the child is likely to be made a ward or may be waived to police court. Often inquiries are made prior to the hearing, to consider the advisability of making the accused a ward or transferring him to police court.

R.C.M.P. Youth Work to Continue

The R.C.M.P. will continue their activities to combat juvenile delinquency in rural areas and where they are under contract. They will work in co-operation with the new branch to bring forth a better understanding of delinquency problems in the country points.

An amendment to the Juvenile Delinquency Act recently lowered the juvenile age for boys from 18 to 16 years, so that youthful offenders in the 16 - 18 year age group are brought under jurisdiction of regular courts, rather than juvenile courts.

Repeated offenders in this age group form the nucleus of the present teenage "gangs" which have been blamed for repeated acts of hoodlumism, robbery and car theft.

Juvenile delinquency is discussed by Jack Cameron, (left) newly-appointed Superintendent of Juvenile Offenders' Branch, Attorney-General's Department, with Detective Ross Campbell (right) of the Youth Guidance Section of the Edmonton Police. Co-operation between Edmonton, Calgary and the Provincial Government is expected to have a marked effect upon juvenile delinquency in Alberta.

The special juvenile details organized within the Detective Departments of the Edmonton and Calgary police forces have been set up to deal with juveniles and youth up to the age of 20.

Four Detectives in Squad

Each police detail is made up of four plainclothesmen who will visit dance halls, cafes, pool halls and other places where youths congregate without supervision. The system is more of a preventive measure than an attempt to clamp down on juvenile entertainment.

Although the Juvenile Offenders' Branch has no jurisdiction over the city-operated details, meetings will be held from time to time among the cities and the government, to compare notes and discuss general problems.

In all cases, both in the civic and provincial juvenile authorities, staffs have been made up of individuals who are interested sincerely in welfare of Alberta youths. ●

The new 1952 Alberta license plate is shown above. It is white on a black background and the numbers and letters are designed so that they will glow after dark with reflected light in the same manner as the new Alberta highway signs. The new plates are of a "permanent" type and will be used for two or three years depending on their life. The year is designated by the figures "52" with slots provided in which tabs for future years can be affixed. The color of the year tab will change every year. Each plate will have four numbers and one letter, with the letter in the middle position. Plates for 1952 will be in a series10A10 to 99Y99, omitting the letters "I", "O" and "Q" because of their similarity to numbers.

'Personal' Car Licenses To End This Year

"Special" car license numbers will be discontinued this year, according to the provincial government's motor vehicle branch.

With the end of special license numbers, the government also is discontinuing the transfer of license plates from one car to another. Even if a car is sold, the license plates will remain with it.

Previously Alberta motorists have been able to reserve "Special" numbers from year to year and choose numbers which repeat their telephone or house address numbers, lucky or sentimental numbers and so on.

However, the number of plates issued—well over 153,000 last year—has made it impossible to continue issuing special numbers. The abolition of special numbers will end delay at the wickets.

The new license plates—which go on sale late in March and must be bought by April 15—will have no low numbers or no telephone numbers. ●

Procedure For Holding Local Option Votes

The granting of beer or club licenses in a local option area is governed by rules of procedure set out in the Government Liquor Control Act of Alberta.

A municipality wishing to be declared a local option area writes to the Clerk of the Executive Council for a petition form. This petition form must be signed by at least 25 percent of the persons whose names appear on the last revised assessment roll of the municipality. They must be taxpayers who reside in the municipality.

When the petition is received, it is forwarded to the Department of Municipal Affairs so that the assessment roll may be checked and then to the Attorney-General's Department where the Legislative Counsel makes a second check. Finally, the petition is sent to the Executive Council for final decision.

Sometimes when petitions are received from adjoining municipalities, the municipalities are combined into one local option area. In the case of hamlets, the hamlets may be enlarged by adding surrounding territory and the whole district declared a local option area.

When the local option area has been created and announced in The Alberta Gazette, the government declares a plebiscite, by issuing a proclamation which appears twice in The Alberta Gazette and any newspapers circulating in the local option area.

The proclamation tells the date and times of the vote, the returning officer, the location of the plebiscite, and the time when the results of the vote will be known. The residents of the area, who must be Canadian citizens, 21 years of age and residents of Alberta for one year and of the local option area for at least six months before the plebiscite, vote either "For Beer Licenses," or "Against Beer Licenses."

Sixty percent of the qualified voters of a local option area is required for a decisive vote. If this 60 percent approves or rejects the granting of beer licenses, the local option area cannot petition for another plebiscite for two years. If between 50 and 60 percent of the voters either affirm or reject the beer license, a new vote may be taken in a year. However, if a beer license has been granted, no plebiscites can be requested within two years of the granting of the beer license.

The government may regulate the procedure of the local option area prior to, during and after the vote and can restrain the publication and distribution of material trying to influence the outcome of the vote. To date, the government has not had to use this authority. In some cases, an inspector of the Alberta Liquor Control Board appears at the municipality prior to the vote and explains the issues at stake at a public meeting.

If the voting citizens decide against selling of beer in their municipality, no beer or club license to sell beer will be allowed. If the vote is affirmative, a hotel or club can apply for permission to sell beer but a vote in favor of beer does not mean that public approval has been given to the sale of liquor. Liquor licenses are granted only to clubs which already hold club licenses for the sale of beer and which qualify under other requirements of the Alberta Liquor Control Board.

An affirmative vote does not mean a license to sell beer is issued automatically in the area. An application by an hotel to [illegible] in the area still must meet with the approval of the [illegible]quor Control Board. ●

[illegible]slative Opening Will Lack Ceremony

In recognition of the death of His Majesty King George the Sixth, the formal opening of the session of the Alberta Legislature Feb. 21 at Edmonton will be stripped of ceremony, pageantry and social activity.

The usual guard-of-honor, invitations to seating on the floor of the assembly chamber and similar activities associated with the opening of a sitting of the legislature will be dispensed with by Alberta Government decision. The opening will consist of a reading of the proclamation calling the session by the Hon. Peter Dawson, Speaker of the assembly, and a reading of the Speech from the Throne by His Honor John J. Bowlen, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province. Following this, it is anticipated the members will quickly complete other legislative formalities required on opening day then adjourn for the start of regular daily sittings on Friday, Feb. 22.

During the session, classes of school children and other groups can watch the proceedings from the public gallery. Seating accommodation for groups should be arranged as far ahead of time as possible with the office of the Clerk of the Legislature, Legislative Buildings, Edmonton. This applies particularly to country groups who might arrive without notification, only to find all seating space in the gallery filled. ●

Crop Rotation Stressed In Save-the-Soil Campaign

Annual presentation of Save-the-Soil certificates has been made by the Department of Agriculture to 24 farmers who scored 80 percent and over in the 1951 campaign.

Awards are made in the areas of Olds, Eckville, Ponoka, Berwyn, Holden and Edmonton. Purpose of the campaign is to encourage better crop practices and soil conservation.

Winners of the 1951 certificates include: Olds area—Wendell Wright, Ed Skocdopole and Bruce Grant; Eckville area—George Smith of Benalto; Ponoka area—R. C. Jones, Forest James, Rees Jones and Percy Baker; Berwyn area—Cyril R. Houlder; Holden area—O. H. F. Koetke and G. R. Zwierschke.

Edmonton area—Linus Meyer, Clover Bar; Harold Wannacott, South Edmonton; Ruben Schwindt, Spruce Grove; Walter Fielhaber, Stony Plain; Mike Soldan, Beach Corner; Paul Montpetit, Legal; J. Bazinet, Edmonton; Carl S. Johnson, Fort Saskatchewan; Steve Puchalik and Nick Puchalik of Coronado; Mike Serink, Fort Saskatchewan; Leon Blanchette, Vimy, and Edwin Atkinson, St. Albert.

The first Save-the-Soil campaign was organized at Eckville in 1945 by local organizations and the district agriculturist. The winner of each year's competition received a shield donated by the local bank, and was allowed to keep it for one year. At the end of five years, the trophy was given to the winner who had the highest total score during that time.

This campaign rapidly spread to other areas throughout the Province, until it now takes in six important agricultural centres in Alberta. In each case, the campaign is organized and sponsored by a local organization such as an agricultural society, board of trade or chamber of commerce.

Prizes of merchandise, money, seed grain and similar articles are given away annually by the local organizations. These are not necessarily awarded to the farmer with the highest points, but often to the entrant who has shown the most progress within the year.

The Department of Agriculture recognized the vital work performed by the Save-the-Soil campaign, and in 1950, announced that it would offer annual certificates to winners in each district.

A regulation score card was drawn up, and is used by areas wishing to enter the campaign. Applications are sent out to the farmers by local organizations and are judged and scored by a district agriculturist or other Department of Agriculture official.

A total of 1,000 points is offered, and a score of 800 or better entitles the entrant to receive a certificate from the Department of Agriculture.

Breakdown of the scoring: Suitable crop rotation, 250 points; freedom from soil erosion, 175 points; farm shelterbelts, 100 points; freedom from weeds, 175 points; suitable cultural practices, 100 points; condition of uncropped land, 50 points; yield of crops, 50 points; freedom from crop disease, 50 points; general neatness of fields and fence lines, 50 points.

The most important factor in saving the soil is proper crop rotation. Farmers entering the competition are urged by local organizations and district agriculturists to introduce proven methods of rotation, and prevention of soil erosion is stressed. ●

High School Enrolment Reaches Record Total

Enrolment in Alberta schools is at a record high with a total of 173,969 students attending grades one to 12 this term.

More than 78,000 students are attending schools in larger cities and towns and schools of independent districts not included in a school division. The remainder—totalling 95,889—are enrolled at divisional schools or at schools in rural towns and villages which have entered school divisions by agreement.

Total enrolment in the previous year was 167,790. Enrolment in cities and larger towns increased this year by about 17,500 students while rural school population dropped by more than 9,000. ●

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